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Q31

Consider the following statements: 1. In tropical regions, Zika virus disease is transmitted by the same mosquito that transmits dengue. 2. Sexual transmission of Zika virus disease is possible. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2017 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK

Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) 1 only. Aedes does transmit both Zika and dengue in the tropics, but **sexual transmission** is also documented, so 1 only is incomplete.

(b)

(b) 2 only. **Sexual transmission** is real, yet statement 1 is also true. Not the key.

(c) Official key

(c) Both 1 and 2. Zika is spread by Aedes aegypti (the dengue mosquito) in tropical regions, and **sexual transmission** is possible. This is the official key.

(d)

(d) Neither 1 nor 2. Both statements are accepted public-health facts. Not the key.

Summary

Official key is (c) both 1 and 2. Zika virus disease in the tropics is transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, the same genus (notably A. aegypti) that carries dengue and chikungunya. WHO also recognises **sexual transmission** and mother-to-foetus spread, with microcephaly as the feared congenital outcome. Neither statement is a trick. Yellow fever mosquito control is the neighbouring **vector** story.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Vector

Aedes aegypti (also A. albopictus)

Same mosquito

Dengue, chikungunya, Zika

WHO PHEIC

Zika, 2016

Congenital risk

Microcephaly / GBS links

Sexual transmission

Documented for Zika

Day-biting

Aedes typically bites by day

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